

BNSF



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VIA UPS OVERNIGHT MAIL

September 29, 2003

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 393X); The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company ("BNSF") Abandonment between Tolna and Hamar, North Dakota

Dear Secretary Williams:

On May 3, 2002, BNSF filed a Notice of Exemption seeking authority to abandon or discontinue service of a 6.00-mile line of railroad between railroad milepost 92.00 in Tolna, Nelson County, North Dakota and railroad milepost 98.00 in Hamar, Eddy County, North Dakota.

By decision served May 9, 2002, the Board ordered that abandonment of this railroad line must be consummated by May 9, 2003. By decision served May 1, 2003, the Board granted BNSF's extension of the consummation date until September 30, 2003. By letter dated April 15, 2003, we advised you that consummation was planned to be effective on September 30, 2003. However, due to weather-related delays and salvage completion difficulties, BNSF is requesting an additional extension of the consummation date. Salvage operations are not planned to be completed until approximately November 30, 2003. Therefore, BNSF requests an additional extension until November 30, 2003 to consummate the abandonment of this line.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (817) 352-2354 or Sarah.Bailiff@BNSF.com.

Sincerely,


Sarah Whitley Bailiff

SWB/js

cc: Richard Batie
Mack Wiens

ENTERED
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